Message Text

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ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 CCO-00 PRS-01 INR-05 INRE-00 RSC-01

(ISO)W

.---- 039106

O R 271512Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0954
AMCONUSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURH

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USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: TRANSMISSION EASUM SPEECH

USIA FOR IAA
CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY
CAPE TOWN FOR TELKINS
JOHANNESBURG FOR COLLINGE

1. POST DISAPPOINTED AT LATE ARRIVAL TEXT OF EASUM ADDRESS.
DESPITE EFFORTS OUR PART TO EMPHASIZE WITH DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY IMPORTANCE OUR RECEIVING ADVANCE TEXT FOR DELIVERY TO SOUTH AFRICAN MEDIA IN TIME MEET THEIR EARLY MORNING DEADLINES, FIRST SECTION USINFO CHANNEL TEXT DID NOT BEGIN ARRIVING UNTIL 05:35 ZULU. REMAINING 5 SECTIONS OF TEXT ARRIVED IN SEQUENCE AT FOLLOWING TIMES: 06:54Z; 07:02Z; 07:16Z; 07:24Z; AND 07:31Z. SINCE PRETORIA TIME TWO HOURS AHEAD OF ZULU, FULL TEXT NOT RECEIVED UNTIL NEARLY 10:00 AM LOCAL TIME (SAME TIME WF BEGAN ARRIVING) TOO LATE TO MAKE MORNING PAPERS OR NEWS BROADCASTS AND, IN FACT, TOO LATE TO MAKE EARLY EDITIONS OF AFTERNOON PAPERS.

2. ON BASIS AGENCY'S 25329 WE EXPECTED ADVANCE EMBARGOED COPY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF TEXT AND HAD ALERTED LOCAL MORNING PRESS AND SABC WE HOPED

HAVE EASUM TEXT IN TIME MEET THEIR DEADLINES. MEDIA
RESPONDED ENTHUSIASTICALLY AND THROUGHOUT NIGHT KEPT CALLING
OUR STAFF WHO REMAINED ON DUTY AWAITING COPY. PAPERS DELAYED
CLOSING EDITIONS WITHOUT TEXT UNTIL LAST POSSIBLE MOMENT.
MORNING PAPERS AND BROADCASTS MADE NO MENTION OF EASUM ADDRESS.

- 3. EARLY AFTERNOON ARGUS GROUP HAS KEN OWEN'S BY-LINE DATELINED LOUISVILLE REPORTING ADDRESS UNDER HEADING "SOUTH AFRICA HOLDS KEY IN SOUTH SAYS EASUM". POST HAD ANTICIPATED EARLY FILING BY OWEN AND HAD HOPED TO GET FULL TEXT TO EDITORS BEFORE THEY RECEIVED OWEN REPORT. FORTUNATELY IN THIS INSTANCE OWEN'S PIECE GIVES STRAIGHTFORWARD, BALANCED THOUGH LIMITED REPORT EASUM REMARKS.
- 4. ACCORDING USINFO CONVEYING EASUM TEXT, COMMUNICATIONS SECTION AGENCY RECEIVED MESSAGE FOR TRANSMISSION AT 23:00 ZULU BUT DID NOT BEGIN TRANSMISSION UNTIL 04:45 ZULU, NEARLY 6 HOURS LATER. TO AVERT COMPARABLE DELAYS IN HANDLING URGENT COMMUNICATIONS THIS KIND IN FUTURE POST WOULD APPRECIATE INDICATION OF CAUSES FOR DELAY.
- 5. ALTHOUGH IMMEDIATE PRESS EXPLOITATION UNQUESTIONABLY BELOW WHAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN WITH EARLIER ARRIVAL OF EASUM TEXT, POST ANTICIPATES SUBSTANTIAL EXPLOITATION IN LATER PRESS EDITIONS AND NEWS BROADCASTS. SABC HAS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION TO POST FOR UPCOMING VOA VOICE FEED AND HAS INDICATED TODAY THAT IT PLANS GIVE ADDRESS HEAVY ATTENTION. THE POST HAS PROVIDED SABC, PRESS OUTLETS AND DEPARTMENT FOREIGN AFFAIRS WITH FAST COPIES OF TEXT AND FRIDAY WILL DISTRIBUTE 2,400 COPIES VIA "OFFICIAL TEXT" TO KEY MEMBERS ON POST MAILING LIST.

PETERSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: SPEECHES Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 27 NOV 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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To: USIA

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